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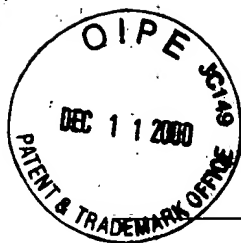
DEC 18 2000

Case Docket No. ASMEEX.236A

Date: December 6, 2000

Page 1

TO 3600 MAIL ROOM



In re application of : Raaijmakers et al.
 App. No. : 09/658,784
 Filed : September 11, 2000
 For : LOADLOCK WITH
 INTEGRATED PRE-
 CLEAN CHAMBER
 Examiner : Unknown
 Art Unit : 3652

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked
 attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal
 Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
 Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.
 20231, on

December 6, 2000

Gordon H. Olson, Reg. No. 20,319

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 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a preliminary amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS AS FILED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total Claims	65	—	65	= 0 ×	\$18	= \$0
Independent Claims	3	—	3	= 0 ×	\$80	= \$0
If application has been amended to contain multiple dependent claim(s), then add					\$270	= \$0
Time Extension Fee						\$0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$0

- (X) Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 with 15 references
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.
- (X) Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Gordon H. Olson
 Gordon H. Olson
 Registration No. 20,319
 Attorney of Record

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ASMEX:236A



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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Raaijmakers et al.

Appl. No. : 09/658,784

Filed : September 11, 2000

For : LOADLOCK WITH
INTEGRATED PRE-CLEAN
CHAMBER

Examiner : Unknown

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) 20231, on

December 6, 2000

(Date)
Gordon H. Olson
Gordon H. Olson, Reg. No. Gordon H. Olson

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the subject application as indicated below.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Applicants propose to amend the drawings as indicated in red on the attached replacement drawing sheets. If the Examiner approves, Applicants will incorporate the changes in a Submission of Formal Drawings.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 2, line 12, replace "a lock" with --load lock--.

On page 2, line 13, after "load" delete ".".

On page 2, line 18, prior to "one" insert --at least--.

On page 7, line 18, replace "Figure 2C" with --Figure 2B--.

On page 9, line 21, replace "processed" with --process--.

On page 9, line 22, replace "23" with --24--.

On page 12, line 21, replace "Figure 5H" with --Figure 7H--.

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Richy Zenggen 6/1/01